

ENTENTE SEEMS TO BE DOING A LITTLE INTRIGUING ITSELF

SPEAKING of intrigues and plots and secret diplomacy and things, The Herald wonders if the world will ever be able to pass impartial judgment upon the activities of the entente allies in trying to force China into the war. The dispatches today on this subject are interesting revelations. The most significant phrase is the "reservoir of war" which the entente seeks to add to its resources—413,000,000 people, with nearly 2,000,000 square miles in China proper, and 1,500,000 square miles more in Mongolia and Tibet which have already been seized by Russia and Great Britain respectively.

China has no more reason to enter the European war than Mexico has. China has domestic problems enough to engage her best efforts for the next 1000 years. She has been despoiled by every one of the great entente powers except Italy; stripped of vast territories and grossly abused. If she were strong enough she might find plenty of reasons to go to war against the entente in the effort to regain some of the things she has lost. But if she goes into the war on the entente side it will be as clear a case of conscienceless, utterly selfish exploitation on the part of her seducers as the world ever saw.

The United States is under the same sort of pressure. Americans must take special care lest they be deceived into being used as tools of one or the other group of belligerents in the great war. If there ever was a time when we needed to sit tight with our backs to the wall and avoid holding up our cards in front of a mirror, now is that time. We must play a strictly American game, first, last, and all the time. If we don't play our hand well, nobody is going to assist us without a rakeoff in sight.

The Zimmermann disclosure happens to touch us where we live, and that is why it caused such a sensation. Some speculation about that almost incredible episode, that amazing revelation of official German stupidity, is timely.

Germany hoped to keep the United States from fighting her; hoped, further, to divert American munitions from the entente allies; hoped, still further, to cut off the Mexican supply of fuel oil from the British navy; hoped, last of all, to separate Japan from the entente, cutting off Japan's supply of munitions from the allies and withdrawing the many Japanese officers who have been acting as instructors in the Russian army.

What lure was held before Japan? That is not patent, except that Germany possibly would have withdrawn claim to the possession at Kiao Chow which Japan captured early in the war. Was Japan to have received the Philippines also? That would be logical. Whatever inducements were offered, it is apparent Japan has not been over tempted, and, now that exposure has come, the plot has been completely frustrated.

How ridiculous that Germany should think the "lost provinces" of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona could be restored to Mexico! The spirit of Houston and Travis, Crockett and Bowie is far from dead, even if there were no efficient and brave United States army to frustrate any such attempt.

Even with Japan's help these states could never be restored to Mexico. If restored, they never could be held. All the strife Mexico has ever experienced would not be a circumstance to what would occur if, by any disastrous circumstance, Mexico could regain possession of the "provinces." They are not "lost provinces" of Mexico. Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona are parts of the United States. Such they will always remain and their citizens are ready to make any sacrifice necessary at any time whatever to uphold the integrity of the United States.

Germany conceived a daring idea and essayed clumsily to carry it into effect. The note shows how thoroughly Germany is isolated from communication with the western world, in that it is impossible to obtain the proper sort of information. Otherwise, Germany must have realized that an offensive of the Mexican government against the United States, such as could obtain any degree of success, is utterly impossible, for Mexico is too far worn down by years of war and impoverishment. Mexico could do nothing whatever without Japan's aid and Japan would have to throw men and materials lavishly into the war, even then.

The way in which the German foreign minister lightly transferred responsibility to the German minister at Mexico City, saying, "The details are left to you for settlement," reminds one of the manner in which William Jennings Bryan habitually waves aside all difficulties in the way of his

wonderful schemes. There is a whole joke-book in that short phrase.

As for Japan, it is not to Japan's interest to break with the entente, even in the hope of getting the Philippines. Japan, by reason of the acquisition of the German base in China at practically no cost; by reason of the influence the entente has permitted the Japanese to acquire over China, and by reason of a very favorable understanding with Russia in respect to the Far East, is quite comfortably situated.

To turn traitor to the entente and send armies to attack the United States would not only upset this comfortable situation, but would at once expose Japan to attack from the rear, for Russia would be capable of rushing an army from Siberia to attack Japan's depleted home guard forces, and it would conceivably not be long until an allied fleet was pounding at Japan's ports, forcing the Japanese navy to abandon any engagement upon the American coast. In the meantime our Pacific fleet of cruisers, destroyers, and submarines could make sea voyaging perilous for Japanese transports and convoys until reinforced by a portion of the Atlantic fleet of battleships coming through the Panama canal. Why expect Japan to give up a sure thing merely to embark on a dangerous enterprise whose only certainty would be that of having to settle with Great Britain and Russia either before or after peace comes?

Germany is falling into the common error of considering the United States next to helpless in a military sense. We are having that rubbed into us daily in statements from Berlin that the German government and the public await with "calm indifference" whatever action the United States may take. This plan of Germany's contemplates an invasion and defeat of the United States, else Mexico's "recovery" of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona could never occur.

But Germany errs in overlooking the fact that while the United States has few men under arms, it could have, under arms and fully equipped within two or three months at most, ten times the troops the German could possibly bring through Mexico to our frontier in that time. The very disparity in numbers would counterbalance the difference in training.

And the United States has nearly 25,000,000 men of military age, 10,000,000 of whom could be counted upon for home defense as fast as they could be equipped and trained for field service. We are not prepared in the sense of having a large army of trained men under arms, more's the pity, but we are better prepared potentially than we were in 1914, thanks to our munition factories, and our preparedness campaign.

It would be well for Germany, and for any others who may at any time contemplate an offensive war against the United States, to look into Gen. von Bernhardi's book on the invasion of America and pay particular attention to the passage wherein he states that because of the United States' wealth of man and resources and the very magnitude of the nation, defeat by complete occupation is impossible; that only by seizing the great commercial centers like New York, Boston, and Philadelphia and thus virtually throttling the nation could an invasion result in victory. It would be manifestly impossible for Mexico or Japan, or both combined, to throttle us that way. Much less could they dominate the entire country.

Except for the fact that it could not possibly be successful in the slightest degree, the plan is very good.

One of the best things done for East El Paso has been the paving of Piedras street which has turned that former rough water course into a much traveled highway and stimulated the opening of a business district at Montana and Piedras streets.

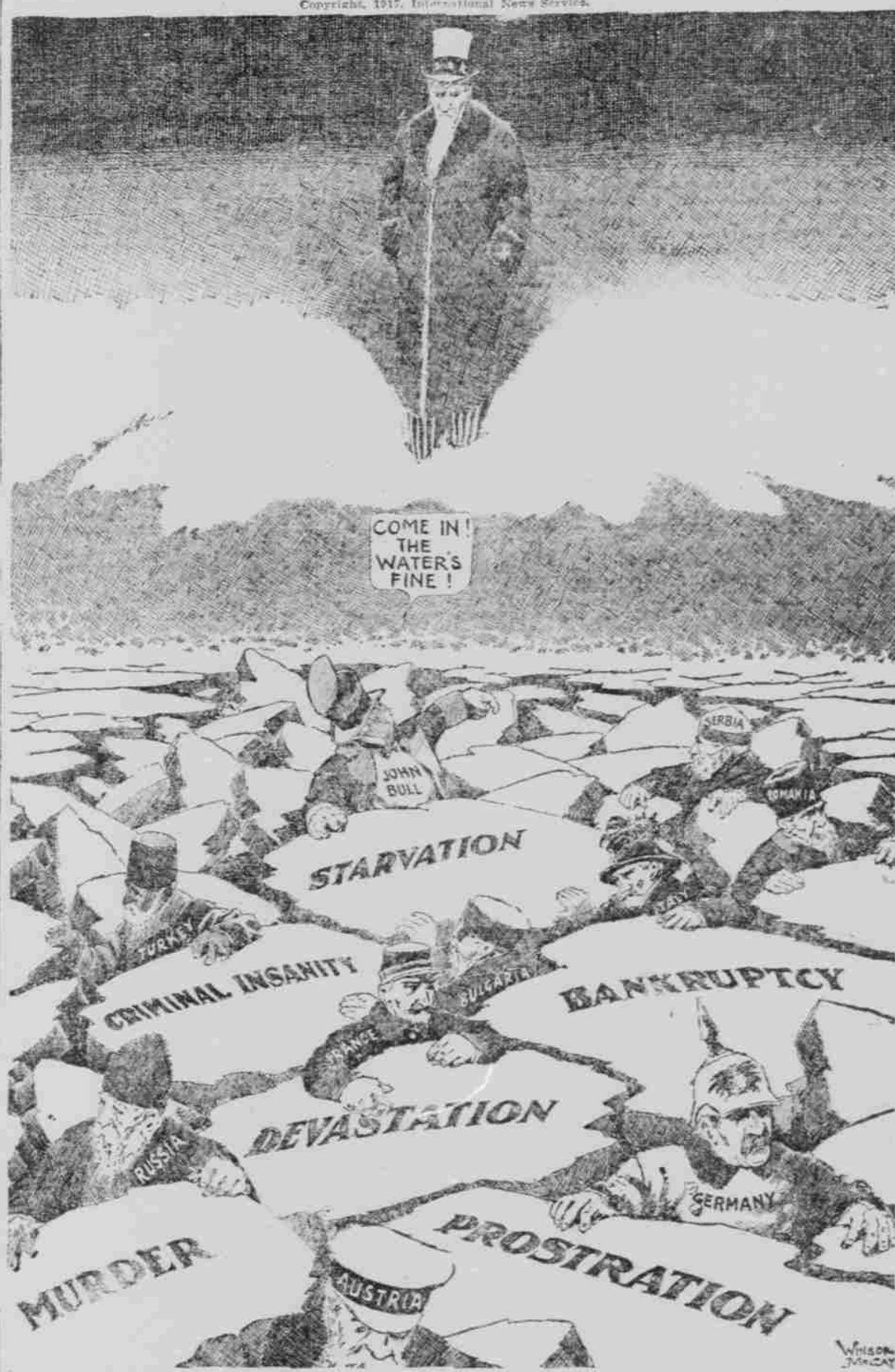
In reading pioneer stories of El Paso and the low reality price then prevailing, do not forget that 20 years hence 1917 will also be regarded as a pioneer time so far as values are concerned.

When the president can present his own bill to congress after making a speech to both houses in advocacy of it, it seems that the next step should be to allow him a vote like any other congressman.

Those who brood most on the hyphen should read a muster roll of United States troops and then meditate on the news that 12,000 Bohemian gymnasts are to offer their services to the nation in the event of war with Germany.

Uncle Sam: "Thanks! But I Think I'd Better Keep Out!"

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Abe Martin



Miss Tawney Apple has been presented with a handsome smokin' jacket by her skatin' class. Who remembers when beauty used to be only skin deep instead of nearly an inch?

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THOUGHTS on BUSINESS

For the Wage-Worker, the Salaried Man, and the Proprietor. NOT COUNTING THE TIME.

I WAS looking at a beautiful cloisonné vase in an art store, examining its intricate workmanship and marvelling at its price, only \$2 for a splendid piece of work that must have taken a skilled craftsman many days to produce.

"How is it possible to make such a thing for that price?" I asked the salesman.

"Those Japanese," he explained. "Don't count their time as part of the cost; they are satisfied to make a little profit on the materials they use."

I could not help thinking that there are many others who do not count their time as part of the cost. Almost everybody writes time—time and waste having anything useful or beautiful to show for it. Even many busy men waste time and if they do it, what shall we say of those who are less busy, and what, indeed, of those who are not busy at all?

Did you ever try saying to yourself, "My time is worth a dollar an hour. Would I pay a dollar an hour for this putting?" This is a fair test. Every hour of your time is a portion of your life's opportunity and should be worth something to you and others.

Short Snatches From Everywhere

Gracious goodness. Some fellow, this Woodrow! At one dip, he has reformed human nature and brought on the millennium.—*Charleston News and Courier.*

The Toledo Blade asserts that George Washington knew more than Bryan knows. But we fear our contemporary will never be able to convince Mr. Bryan of that.—*Houston Post.*

Roundabout Town When a Fellow Gets Against It In a Dry Town Raymond Teal Has Real Hard Luck Experience

RAYMOND TEAL has been telling a story on himself and his recent visit to Columbus to his co-workers at the Texas Grand. He says he forgot to "take anything along" the last time he went to Columbus, and, feeling the need "of something for a cold," he asked a captain where he could find it.

"See that old man over there," asked the captain, pointing to an old fellow with whiskers. "Well, if anybody has anything around here, he has. Go over and wink at him."

"I went over and winked," said Teal, "and the old fellow winked back at me. Then he got up, slowly, made a motion with his head in a certain direction and walked off. I followed. We walked around through alleys and side streets for about half a mile, then climbed a ladder into the second story of an adobe shack and the old fellow sat down. So did I. We sat there

looking at each other for some time. Finally I said, 'Well, haven't you got anything?' He said 'old whiskeys.' 'I thought you had something,' I said. That reminded Teal—so he says—of his last visit to Columbus. He said he got into the same place there as at Columbus—contracted a cold and needed something to cure it. He stopped at a man he knew and asked him where he could get what he wanted.

"See that millinery store down there on that corner," said the man, pointing to a store. Teal says the man asked him, "Yes," said Teal.

"Well, that's the only place in Douglas that doesn't sell it," said his friend.

It can't be denied that the schools of journalism are turning out "journalists" all right, but not a newspaper man, not yet.

Remember, it's not the Republicans nor the Progressives who are making those charges up at Austin recently. It was the Democrats themselves. When Democratic factions fall out, the rest of the people often learn some mighty interesting things. Either Democrats make charges quickly and without foundation, and consequently what they say against other parties should be given very little weight, or there are some mighty serious things in their own party that need clearing up. Which?

Garnett King had an awful time the other night trying to be true to all his secrets. He was a great relief when he awoke and found it was all a dream.

Little Opeal Smith is bad sick with pneumonia fever.—*Blacksburg correspondence, Shooks (Ind.) News.*

If any sort of sickness is not bad, we'd like to hear from that Blacksburg shipwright.

A citizen requests me to say to the militiamen that, if they will look at the map when they get back home, they will still see El Paso right where it was. This man has had two new houses badly wrecked near a militia camp and says he has had his appetite spoiled several times on a great relief listening to militiamen tell "what we have done for El Paso."

Answering my query "How would you get tourists to stop off here?" some anonymous scribbler, afraid to sign his name, said: "Stop robbing them as soon as they get off the train."

Back at him we ask: "Whaddya mean, robbing them?" If people gave

HOGWALLOW LOCALS

By GEORGE HINGHAM

The interior department of the postoffice was cut off entirely from the outside world Wednesday, as the Postmaster took a nap with his chair leaning against the front door.

Yam Sims says it won't be but a little while now until the fishing worms will arise from their long winter's slumber deep down the dirt and stretch themselves and crawl up into the lukewarm crust of the earth, there to be taken unaware and unprepared by some ruthless but hopeful fisherman.

Miss Huetter Hocks was in town Thursday with Raz Barlow and a dozen eggs. She found no trouble in getting rid of the latter.

Lightning Changes

THE morn was fair; the balmy air, suggested May or June; I took my way downtown that day, to buy myself a prune. My wife exclaimed, "The climate's framed for sudden shifts and tricks; you'd better don your ulster, John!" I sternly answered, "Nix!" The skies are like the winter's through, the spring has come to stay; the joyous wrens and setting hens send up their roundelay. In spring attire I took my lyre, and paced the village street, and chirped and smiled like wayward child, and danced on buoyant feet. Then from the north a blast came forth that smote me thigh and hip, and since that morn my frame's been torn by fourteen kinds of grip. So many twists, so many gyrations of climate here are sprung, I wonder why all men don't die while they are fresh and young. No man can say, at break of day, just what that day will bring; soft winds may blow, there may be snow, we may have fall or spring. And so we strive to keep alive by taking pills and dope, and strain our gaze for better days, for while there's life there's hope.

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A Word From Private Atkins

THEM RESERVISTS.

"THERE'S lots of exaggeration people in this here world, but I've 'bout made up my mind here lately that the worst of 'em is these dognose reservists. They're always hazzlin' 'bout their wrongs, and how Uncle Samuel has done them dirt, and if they asks it once, they asks it a hundred times a day—when're they going to be turned loose?

"According to old Noah Webster, who wrote the first dictionary, the word 'reservist' comes from 'reserve,' and according to that same gentleman this word has variety of meanings, none applyin' and some not. For instance, it says, 'Reserve—to keep in store for future use or other time.' Well, they was kept in store all right, and most of 'em wishes as how they had been left in store.

"Go on further, the dictionary says, 'that which is retained for present use or disposal.' For present use and disposal all right, 'cause don't I see these reservists 'doin' cook's' police, and fatigues, and standin' calls just as regular as the 'R' regulars, if not more so?—if that ain't helpin' 'em in the present I don't want to be soldierin' in the future.

"And here's another definition of the word—'Caution in personal behavior, shyness.' If old Noah could see the way some of these reservists speak they are liable to make a new term, think a new major general is arrivin' or an attack has opened on Juxtar. We need some Maxim silencers.

"I told you so." Two weeks ago, when the weather became so balmy and springlike, I advised in this column the purchase of an additional ton of coal.

He was shown the town in 1898. As late as 1904 Col. L. J. Hewitt paid \$1200 for two lots on the corner of Nevada and Bond streets and today the same lots are worth several thousand dollars. The same lot sold in 1901 for \$250 per lot.

Edward Millard Patterson paid \$22,000 for 48 feet on the southwest corner of San Antonio and San Jose streets, opposite the Bond building, and today the fraction more than \$68 per front foot, and today the property is considered worth fully \$150,000.

Earlier, in 1896, Mr. Patterson paid for the 24 feet adjoining the corner property on the west side \$250 per foot. Then as late as 1902 Mr. Patterson paid \$1000 per front foot for the property now occupied by Sol I. Berg's store, on San Antonio street.

Before the railroads arrived, the old pioneers then living in El Paso had the old country town idea that the town would grow up around the railroad depot, that the railroad depot would be the center of the town. George Look tells a story in illustration of this idea.

In the street Look met W. S. Hills on the 1881 Mr. Look street was then the only street—and Mr. Hills had under his arm a roll of maps of the city. He wanted to sell Mr. Look some city lots and the two adjourned to Mr. Hills' office and inspected the maps and prices of lots. Mr. Look was of-

First Residence Facing On Montana Built In 1898

Busy Thoroughfare Then Not Even Country Road

BY J. D. PONDOR.

"IN 1898," said I. A. Sheid, "I built the first residence to front on Montana street. The only other house then on that street was the Mesa school, and I built between Kansas and Campbell. Montana was not much of a street then. There was no traffic on it and the street was not even a country road. There was not then a single house on Idaho street, now Boulevard, east of Campbell street."

The records will show that Mr. Sheid paid \$400 for his two lots in the 400 block on Montana street, and property adjoining him sold recently at \$18,000 for two lots.

Mr. Sheid endeavored to locate the site of the old bicycle racing park, which was located on Austin street, near the north end of the present viaduct. In 1896 or 1897, when the bicycle track was abolished, Mr. Sheid had the International Lumber yards, located where the Zeiler hotel now stands.

When McKinley Was Shown the City. The favorite long driveway of the city was then out of the city, and the Austin street and north on Austin to Montana and then back to the business center of the city, over Oregon street. The streets were not paved, but that was the route over which president McKinley was driven when

Motorcycle Gunners. On Patrol, Are Fast Riders

Car Tracks' Location Makes Semaphore Use Hard

"THERE is certainly a change these days, in the way a small army force patrols a given area," stated Frank Patton, "I refer particularly to the motorcycle company of regulars which I happened to see the other night. I don't know whether they were answering an alarm call or were merely out for practice, but this outfit had their machine guns all mounted on the little side carriages beside the motorcycles, and they were tearing along at a great rate."

"There was one circumstance that was against the successful use of semaphores on El Paso streets and that was the location of electric street railway tracks," said H. G. Jones, the street car tracks. "If one will notice, are either too much in the center of the semaphores. In practically every city where the semaphore system is used there is a small place in the center of the street where the semaphore can be placed. It is not intersected by any of the car tracks and is in exactly the center. The street railway tracks are not situated this way in El Paso, however."

"El Paso, Friday, seemed to relax from a tension that it has been undergoing for several months, due to the absence of the large number of soldiers who daily have been accustomed to come to town, but who were held in camp," said C. R. Miller. "The streets are not nearly so crowded and there seems to have been a lull in the business line, although many civilians are taking advantage of the absence of the khaki clad boys to make purchases they did not have time to make formerly."

"Anybody would know that Andy Reeves made up that trade trip recently," said H. D. Slater. "All you need to prove it is to note what he did with Tempe and Prescott. His schedule calls for a stop at Tempe from Friday night until 1:30 Saturday morning; at Prescott, from 7 o'clock Saturday morning until 11 p. m. Everybody who went on the trade trip through that territory will understand and approve Andy's judgment. Perhaps he can now fit in a side trip to the Petrified Forest, and a whole schedule is admirably arranged, and the trip will be highly profitable and pleasurable for every one who goes along. And everybody will understand a lot of what when the El Paso bunch arrives, and gets busy. The 'P. P. Push and Progress' trip will mean nine straight days of rest for the whole bunch. The originals are going along and before we get back everything will be better and settled right, friendly ties will be more tightly bound, and El Paso will be more than ever a happy home for many a day. We are going to call on the home folks, say howdy, ask after the family, and leave a bottle of El Paso sunshine on every doorstep."

"My brother, Sidney, in England," said N. Golden, "wrote me a letter last week which said, 'You people in America are going to have trouble with Mexico and depend upon it the Germans will be at the bottom of it.' My brother said for years in the military branch of the British army. He is now retired, but is ready to be recalled to the colors. He picked up his information relative to Germany's interference in Mexico affairs, in British army circles."

"A person passing through El Paso and seeing the long line of soldiers piled in the local papers daily," said R. H. Thorne, "would imagine that El Paso was having something startling. But I know as a matter of fact the death rate among our permanent residents is remarkably low. Old age is taking away a few of our people, more than 60 percent of the deaths recorded by the papers are people who recently came here as invalids or came here some years ago to make their last fight for life, or they are soldiers. The death rate among the national guardsmen stationed on the border is indeed startling and I cannot account for it. The guardsmen are in the main young men and apparently in robust health as are the men of the regular army, yet pneumonia seems to have become a fatal epidemic among them. While there are reasons for this, I have heard one cause among the regulars. El Paso's climate, nor any other local cause, is responsible for the deaths among the guardsmen. I have heard the explanation offered that dissipation and neglect to take proper care of themselves in the open during winter weather was responsible for many cases of pneumonia. I do not try to explain it myself."

Little Interviews

DEAR MR. KABIBBLE, A YOUNG MAN CALLING ON ME, IS AFRAID OF MY MOTHER, BUT NOT OF MY FATHER—WHAT SHALL HE DO? —OLIVE BAYES

"YOUR FATHER IS PROBABLY IN THE SAME FW—WHY DOESN'T HE AND THE YOUNG MAN COMBINE AND FIGURE OUT SOME DEFENSE?"

There was no Texas street then. Today Texas is one of the longest busy thoroughfares in El Paso and the traffic is so great that the intersection of Texas and Mesa as to make crossing either street at that point hazardous for pedestrians. It is estimated that during every 12 hours of daylight more than 12,000 people pass that corner.

"Fortunes Best Is Yet to Come," Mr. Patterson has been made an real estate in El Paso since 1902, said Jim Morrison, of the Santa Fe, Friday, "but large as many more fortunes are going to be made on El Paso realty within the next six or eight years, it may take more money to operate now than it did in 1902-3, but the profits are going to be much larger. I sincerely believe that you can buy property most anywhere within ten blocks of the new postoffice site today and double your money on the investment inside of five years."

"Of course in some sections of the business district such large increase cannot be expected in five years. But the business district is congested and is spreading out and the buyer who gets into the spread is going to make big money."

EL PASO HERALD

DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF THE PEOPLE, THAT NO GOOD CAUSE SHALL LACK A FIGHT, AND THAT EVIL SHALL NOT THRIVE UNOPPOSED.

H. D. Slater, editor and controlling owner, has directed The Herald for 19 years; J. C. Wilmeth is Manager and G. A. Martin is News Editor.

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